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Playing 'Button, Button' With The Nation's Foreign Policy

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ALTHOUGH there has been some improvement, United States foreign policy is still being formulated in half a dozen places. This wouldn't be bad except that the result is usually half a dozen different policies.

On Dec. 11, Sec. Dulles said that internal pressures may well topple Soviet communism in the near future. The remark had little effect because it was so like countless other expressions of empty optimism uttered during the last four years by the talkative secretary.

On Dec. 16, five days after Dulles' statement, Gen. Alfred M. Gruenther, retiring NATO commander, termed the assumption that the Soviets would crumble

in the foreseeable future "foolish."

We suggest that instead of meeting quite so often with foreign diplomats, Sec. Dulles call in his own diplomats and work out a foreign policy and an interpretation of world conditions that they all can agree on.

This would be a boon to perplexed correspondents who don't know whether the official U. S. policy is that advanced by Dulles, by Gen. Gruenther, by U.N. Chief Delegate Henry Cabot Lodge, by President Eisenhower, by Vice-Pres. Nixon, by CIA Chief Allen Dulles or by Under Sec. of State Herbert Hoover, Jr. At one time or another, each of these men has announced policies at variance with the policies of one or more of the others.